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RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

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P.O., State and ZIP Code Monroeville, PA 15146-2347	
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PS Form 3800, June 1985



Kender

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
841 CHESTNUT BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19107

December 17, 1991

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Kenneth J. Bird
Paul C. Rizzo Associates, Inc.
300 Oxford Drive
Monroeville, PA 15146-2347

Re: Laboratory Approval Request

Dear Mr. Bird:

Your letter to me dated December 12, 1991 asks EPA to approve Wadsworth/Alert Laboratories to avoid delay in obtaining analytical results from the upcoming groundwater effort. Your letter correctly states that your additional request for approval of this lab was made in July 1991. I am sorry for the long delay, but at the time of the original request, PCR wanted this approval only for a backup lab and the major RI sampling effort was already completed. Frankly, I gave this request a very low priority.

You very recently brought to my attention that you have been having problems with Lancaster Labs, so I have now reviewed the approval request.

In our phone conversation on December 17, 1991 you indicated that Wadsworth has two labs that could perform the needed analysis. I discussed the lab approval with Mr. Bhupi Khona who is very knowledgeable regarding analytical procedures and EPA protocols. The Wadsworth Lab in Akron, Ohio is a CLP approved lab for VOC analysis and therefore, if this lab is used for the monitoring well samples, no Performance Evaluation samples need to be run by their lab. The Wadsworth lab located in Pittsburgh is not currently a CLP approved lab and therefore must run Performance Evaluation samples to validate the monitoring well samples, if this lab is used.

Mr. Khona informed me that because of the low detection levels associated with analytical methods under 524, PE samples should always be run to validate this method. This is a CLP protocol and Wadsworth should be aware of this. He indicated to me that he did not require this at Shrivvers Corner, because the Work Plan was already approved, but that he is requiring this at his Bell Landfill Site and recommends this for the Hunterstown Road Site residential sampling effort.

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In summary, EPA approves the use of Wadsworth Laboratories, but requires PE samples if the Pittsburgh facility is used and requires PE samples for any method 524 tests. If your lab does not agree with these requirements, Mr. Khona has agreed to set up a conference call with the CRL. If you contact EPA's Central Regional Lab, they will explain the PE procedures to you. If you have any question, please contact me at (215) 597-0676.

Sincerely,



Frank Vavra, Remedial Project Manager
Western PA Section

cc. Jeffrey Pike
Daniel Isales (ORC)
Ron Klinokowski (PADER)

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